

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A history of balloons and balloon voyages is given in *Wonderful Balloon Adventures*, from the French of E. MARION (Charles Sevigne & Co.), containing a complete account of the "conquest of the skies" by the art of aeronautics since the first experiment of Montgolfier in 1783.

A new edition of the *Belle and Lucy Book of Poetry*, by JACOB AMBERT, is issued in three volumes by Dodd & Mead. It consists of familiar poetical pieces, original and selected, adapted to juvenile reading and recitation, and furnishing a variety of specimens for the introduction of the young pupil to an acquaintance with English verse.

The *Sunday School Idea*, by JOHN S. HART, LL.D., (J. C. Garrigus & Co.), is an excellent manual for the use of teachers, showing the objects and methods of the popular institution to which it is devoted, and the principles which lie at its foundation. The author discusses, in great detail, the duties and qualifications of a Sunday school teacher, to whose office he attaches a high importance in the work of religious civilization. The tone of the volume is earnest and impressive, and its counsels are clearly the result of wide experience and great practical sagacity.

Wilson's New Speller and Analyzer, by MARCUS WILSON (Speler & Brothers), is intended to furnish the instructors of our common schools with an efficient aid to the complete elementary knowledge of the orthography, etymology, formation, derivation, and uses of words in the English language. In the general arrangement of the work, the author has followed the plan of his previous manual, but has introduced several new features which promise to be of special practical utility. The volume has the merit of remarkable conciseness, admirably packing a great amount of matter in the smallest compass, and the system on which it is based cannot fail to command the attention of teachers who are on the lookout for valuable improvements in their mode of art.

In *Vagabond Adventures*, by RALPH KEELER (Fields, Osgood, & Co.), the author relates his various experiences by land and sea, as a juvenile runaway, negro minstrel, university student, penniless sailor, and nobody knows what, with all the frankness and mirth of Gil Blas, though perhaps not with his gift of colloquial embellishment. His little book contains a sketch of his personal history until the close of twenty-two years, starting from the point when he ran away from home at the age of eleven, and carrying him through a coil of wonder, exploit sufficient to make the fortune of half-a-dozen heroes of romance. Among other lists of strange experience, he describes the art of traveling in Europe almost without money, showing how he lived by his wits without damaging his conscience, and shrewly naming his 40 cents to make do the work of ten. He has evidently seen many odd sights, and picked up a plenty of curious facts in the course of his wandering, which he describes with glee and naturalness.

London Society, for November, contains several articles relating to the French and Prussian war, which may be read with interest as statements of English opinion and experience. "The Express in Belgium" relates the particulars of the political and romantic flight of Empress and describes her retreat at Antwerp, "one of the liveliest spots of the most lovely of all the English cities." "Sisterhood of the West" is devoted to German, British and other prominent French leaders, with some notes on the siege of Strasburg. In the "Philosophy Papers," there is an essay on the "Scientific Impact of War," calling in question the views of Tocqueville and Burke, who are nevertheless declared to be "most eloquent and eloquent expositors of science," and able to bring scientific subjects before the public with "all the force, charm, and wealth of large prose. The combat can't be suppressed"—we have received from France, however, the *Captain Nemo*, Templeton, and other naval romances. (Continued.)

Among the contents of the Monthly Part of *Appleton's Journal* for November there are several papers of more than ordinary interest which will abundantly reward the attention of the reader. The other editorial notices of Dr. John Brown, General Von Moltke, General Trochu, and others, a account of these celebrated personages respectively, describing the career of each man, though they are not so well known as a story of the war, are very interesting. The article entitled "The Great French Revolution" gives the writer's experience on a trip to Spain, presenting a forcible picture of many of the peculiar features of Spanish life. "A Journey with Castile" is another traveler in Spain, J. K. H. Wilson, describing his travels with the family medical attendant in mind. The "Tintoretto" and interesting "Notes" in the last issue, as is usually the case in *Appleton's*, are lively and comprehensive, and greatly enhance the interest of the periodical. The convenience of the reader would be increased by a running title of subjects, instead of the uniform heading of the page, which now occupies a disastrous waste of time in the useless turning of leaves.

Are We A Nation, by J. M. BUNYAN (George P. Putnam & Son), is the title of a memoir recently devoted to the same line of argument as that set forth by Mr. Millard in his work on national sovereignty, although the present essay was originally written prior to the publication of the last mentioned authority's volume. Mr. Bunyan is accordingly entitled to the credit of an original statement and discussion of the present question of national sovereignty, as well as of many other and coincidently to its elucidation. He treats the subject mainly on historical grounds, showing by ample citations from Washington, J. Jackson, Madison, and Jackson, from Ellsworth, Jay, Wilson, Monroe, and Story, and from Hamilton, Webster, and Benton that the Constitution of the United States is interpreted by those illustrious statesmen and jurists, leaving the possession of supreme authority by the Federal Government, with a legislative and judicial power of its own, and superior to that of the particular governments of any separate part. The cause of Mr. Bunyan's reasoning may be presented in a brief paragraph. "There is a 'higher law,' of earlier and more authoritative origin than any human enactment, which is the final standard of what is law; however, and which is human law appears, to that proportion as they are lower—what may be enacted may be dissolved without damage to persons with whom are acquainted with it. But law of education and ability should never attempt to do away with the power, to rule with the highest law of God and man, or make it the intercessor of a written and finite Constitution; they should not perceive themselves under the authority of men who are entitled to our reverence; nor estimate painful responsibilities as to what our Government should be, for the real Government established by the people, and endowed by the infinite spiritual power, which has been exhibited for good, yet is made in bad hands to produce evil; which has accomplished, and is yet to accomplish, the work of a subversive Government, enroute within its clearly defined sphere, and which is no more fit for a place in the growing empire of a vigorous and benevolent people, than the dead bones of the *House of Commons*." My House is in the Woods," "My Room Home," "My Barn."

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